

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information receiving apparatus receiving information from a plurality of information providing apparatuses,

said information providing apparatuses each including an information storage circuit storing a plurality of information items and a transmission circuit transmitting the information items stored in said information storage circuit to said information receiving apparatus,

said plurality of information items each containing information and information identification data for identifying said information,

said information identification data being common to said plurality of information providing apparatuses,

the information contained in said information items that are identified by the same said information identification data differing depending on said information providing apparatuses, and

said information receiving apparatus comprising:

an identification data storage circuit storing information identification data for identifying information to be selected;

a reception circuit receiving said plurality of information items from an arbitrary one of said plurality of information providing apparatuses;

a storage circuit connected to said reception circuit for storing said information items received by said reception circuit; and

an output circuit connected to said identification data storage circuit and said storage circuit for selecting and outputting an information item having a predetermined relation with the information identification data stored in said identification data storage circuit from the information items stored in said storage circuit.

2. The information receiving apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

said output circuit includes a circuit for selecting and outputting an information item containing information identification data matching the information identification data stored in said identification data storage

circuit from the information items stored in said storage circuit.

3. The information receiving apparatus according to claim 1,
wherein

said information item further contains relevant information
identification data for identifying information relevant to the information
5 contained in said information item and priority of said relevant information,
and

said output circuit includes a circuit for selecting an information
item containing relevant information identification data matching the
information identification data stored in said identification data storage
10 circuit from the information items stored in said storage circuit and then
outputting said selected information item according to priority contained in
said selected information item.

4. The information receiving apparatus according to claim 1,
further comprising an input circuit connected to said identification data
storage circuit for entering information identification data of information to
be selected.

5. The information receiving apparatus according to claim 1,
wherein

the information contained in said information items that are
identified by the same said information identification data includes
5 information differing depending on respective locations of said information
providing apparatuses.

6. The information receiving apparatus according to claim 1,
wherein

the information contained in said information items that are
identified by the same said information identification data includes
5 information differing depending on respective locations of said information
providing apparatuses and time.

7. The information receiving apparatus according to claim 1,
wherein

the information contained in said information items includes local
information associated with a local area, and

5 said local information is identified by local information identification
data and said local information includes information which is more detailed
as location of said information providing apparatus is closer to a local area
specified by said local information identification data.

8. The information receiving apparatus according to claim 1,
wherein

said information item further contains relevant information
identification data for identifying information relevant to the information
5 contained in said information item, and

10 said output circuit includes a circuit for selecting and outputting an
information item containing either information identification data or
relevant information identification data matching the information
identification data stored in said identification data storage circuit from the
information items stored in said storage circuit.

9. The information receiving apparatus according to claim 8,
wherein

5 said identification data storage circuit includes a circuit for storing
information identification data of information to be selected and relevant
information identification data contained in an information item, among the
information items stored in said storage circuit, that contains information
identification data matching the information identification data stored in
said identification data storage circuit, and

10 said output circuit includes a circuit for selecting and outputting an
information item, from the information items stored in said storage circuit,
that contains either information identification data or relevant information
identification data matching either the information identification data or
the relevant information identification data stored in said identification

data storage circuit.

10. An information receiving apparatus receiving information from a plurality of information providing apparatuses,

said information providing apparatuses each including an information storage circuit storing a plurality of information items,

5 said plurality of information items each containing information and information identification data for identifying said information,

said information identification data being common to said plurality of information providing apparatuses,

10 the information contained in said information items that are identified by the same said information identification data differing depending on said information providing apparatuses,

15 said information providing apparatuses each further including a transmission circuit for selecting an information item having a predetermined relation with said identification data from the information items stored in said information storage circuit and then transmitting the selected information item to said information receiving apparatus, and

said information receiving apparatus comprising:

20 an identification data storage circuit storing information identification data for identifying information to be selected;

an identification data transmission circuit connected to said identification data storage circuit for transmitting the information identification data stored in said identification data storage circuit to an arbitrary one of said information providing apparatuses;

25 a reception circuit receiving said selected information item transmitted from said arbitrary one of said information providing apparatuses in response to the information identification data transmitted by said identification data transmission circuit;

a storage circuit connected to said reception circuit for storing said information item received by said reception circuit; and

30 an output circuit connected to said storage circuit for outputting the information item stored in said storage circuit.

11. The information receiving apparatus according to claim 10, further comprising an input circuit connected to said identification data storage circuit for entering information identification data of information to be selected.

12. The information receiving apparatus according to claim 10, wherein

the information contained in said information items that are identified by the same said information identification data includes information differing depending on respective locations of said information providing apparatuses.

13. The information receiving apparatus according to claim 10, wherein

the information contained in said information items that are identified by the same said information identification data includes information differing depending on respective locations of said information providing apparatuses and time.

14. The information receiving apparatus according to claim 10, wherein

the information contained in said information items includes local information associated with a local area, and

said local information is identified by local information identification data and said local information includes information which is more detailed as location of said information providing apparatus is closer to a local area specified by said local information identification data.

15. An information providing apparatus employed in an information providing system including an information receiving apparatus and a plurality of information providing apparatuses transmitting information to said information receiving apparatus,

said information providing apparatus comprising:

an information storage circuit storing a plurality of information items,

said plurality of information items each containing information and information identification data for identifying said information,

10 said information identification data being common to said plurality of information providing apparatuses, and

the information contained in said information items that are identified by the same said information identification data differing depending on said information providing apparatuses;

15 said information providing apparatus further comprising a reception circuit receiving information identification data from said information receiving apparatus;

an identification data storage circuit connected to said reception circuit for storing said received information identification data; and

20 a transmission circuit connected to said information storage circuit and said identification data storage circuit for selecting an information item having a predetermined relation with the identification data stored in said identification data storage circuit from the information items stored in said information storage circuit and then transmitting the selected information item to said information receiving apparatus.

16. The information providing apparatus according to claim 15, wherein

5 said transmission circuit includes a circuit for selecting an information item containing information identification data matching the information identification data stored in said identification data storage circuit from the information items stored in said information storage circuit and then transmitting said selected information item to said information receiving apparatus.

17. The information providing apparatus according to claim 15, wherein

said information item further contains relevant information

identification data for identifying information relevant to the information
5 contained in said information item and priority of said relevant information,
and

said transmission circuit includes a circuit for selecting an
information item containing relevant information identification data
10 matching the information identification data stored in said identification
data storage circuit from the information items stored in said information
storage circuit and then transmitting said selected information item
according to priority contained in said selected information item.

18. The information providing apparatus according to claim 15,
wherein

the information contained in said information items that are
identified by the same said information identification data includes
5 information differing depending on respective locations of said information
providing apparatuses.

19. The information providing apparatus according to claim 15,
wherein

the information contained in said information items that are
identified by the same said information identification data includes
5 information differing depending on respective locations of said information
providing apparatuses and time.

20. The information providing apparatus according to claim 15,
wherein

the information contained in said information items includes local
information associated with a local area, and

5 said local information is identified by local information identification
data and said local information includes information which is more detailed
as location of said information providing apparatus is closer to a local area
specified by said local information identification data.

21. The information providing apparatus according to claim 15,
wherein

said information item further contains relevant information
identification data for identifying information relevant to the information
5 contained in said information item, and

said transmission circuit includes a circuit for selecting an
information item containing either information identification data or
relevant information identification data matching the information
identification data stored in said identification data storage circuit from the
10 information items stored in said information storage circuit and then
transmitting said selected information item to said information receiving
apparatus.

22. The information providing apparatus according to claim 21,
wherein

said identification data storage circuit includes a circuit for storing
information identification data received by said identification data reception
5 circuit and relevant information identification data contained in an
information item, among the information items stored in said information
storage circuit, that contains information identification data matching said
received information identification data, and

said transmission circuit includes a circuit for selecting an
10 information item, from the information items stored in said information
storage circuit, that contains either information identification data or
relevant information identification data matching either the information
identification data or the relevant information identification data stored in
said identification data storage circuit and then transmitting said selected
15 information item to said information receiving apparatus.

23. An information receiving apparatus receiving information from
a plurality of information providing apparatuses,

said information providing apparatuses each including information
storage means for storing a plurality of information items and transmission

5 means for transmitting the information items stored in said information
storage means to said information receiving apparatus,
said plurality of information items each containing information and
information identification data for identifying said information,
said information identification data being common to said plurality
10 of information providing apparatuses,
the information contained in said information items that are
identified by the same said information identification data differing
depending on said information providing apparatuses, and
said information receiving apparatus comprising:
15 identification data storage means for storing information
identification data for identifying information to be selected;
reception means for receiving said plurality of information items
from an arbitrary one of said plurality of information providing apparatuses;
storage means connected to said reception means for storing said
20 information items received by said reception means; and
output means connected to said identification data storage means
and said storage means for selecting and outputting an information item
having a predetermined relation with the information identification data
stored in said identification data storage means from the information items
25 stored in said storage means.

24. The information receiving apparatus according to claim 23,
wherein

5 said output means includes means for selecting and outputting an
information item containing information identification data matching the
information identification data stored in said identification data storage
means from the information items stored in said storage means.

25. The information receiving apparatus according to claim 23,
wherein

said information item further contains relevant information
identification data for identifying information relevant to the information

5 contained in said information item and priority of said relevant information,
and

said output means includes means for selecting an information item
containing relevant information identification data matching the
information identification data stored in said identification data storage
10 means from the information items stored in said storage means and then
outputting said selected information item according to priority contained in
said selected information item.

26. The information receiving apparatus according to claim 23,
further comprising input means connected to said identification data storage
means for entering information identification data of information to be
selected.

27. The information receiving apparatus according to claim 23,
wherein

the information contained in said information items that are
identified by the same said information identification data includes
5 information differing depending on respective locations of said information
providing apparatuses.

28. The information receiving apparatus according to claim 23,
wherein

the information contained in said information items that are
identified by the same said information identification data includes
5 information differing depending on respective locations of said information
providing apparatuses and time.

29. The information receiving apparatus according to claim 23,
wherein

the information contained in said information items includes local
information associated with a local area, and
5 said local information is identified by local information identification

data and said local information includes information which is more detailed as location of said information providing apparatus is closer to a local area specified by said local information identification data.

30. The information receiving apparatus according to claim 23, wherein

said information item further contains relevant information identification data for identifying information relevant to the information contained in said information item, and

said output means includes means for selecting and outputting an information item containing either information identification data or relevant information identification data matching the information identification data stored in said identification data storage means from the information items stored in said storage means.

31. The information receiving apparatus according to claim 30, wherein

said identification data storage means includes means for storing information identification data of information to be selected and relevant information identification data contained in an information item, among the information items stored in said storage means, that contains information identification data matching the information identification data stored in said identification data storage means, and

said output means includes means for selecting and outputting an information item, from the information items stored in said storage means, that contains either information identification data or relevant information identification data matching either the information identification data or the relevant information identification data stored in said identification data storage means.

32. An information receiving apparatus receiving information from a plurality of information providing apparatuses,

said information providing apparatuses each including information

storage means for storing a plurality of information items,

5 said plurality of information items each containing information and information identification data for identifying said information,

 said information identification data being common to said plurality of information providing apparatuses,

10 the information contained in said information items that are identified by the same said information identification data differing depending on said information providing apparatuses,

15 said information providing apparatuses each further including transmission means for selecting an information item having a predetermined relation with said identification data from the information items stored in said information storage means and then transmitting the selected information item to said information receiving apparatus, and

 said information receiving apparatus comprising:

20 identification data storage means for storing information identification data for identifying information to be selected;

 identification data transmission means connected to said identification data storage means for transmitting the information identification data stored in said identification data storage means to an arbitrary one of said information providing apparatuses;

25 reception means for receiving said selected information item transmitted from said arbitrary one of said information providing apparatuses in response to the information identification data transmitted by said identification data transmission means;

 storage means connected to said reception means for storing said information item received by said reception means; and

30 output means connected to said storage means for outputting the information item stored in said storage means.

33. The information receiving apparatus according to claim 32, further comprising input means connected to said identification data storage means for entering information identification data of information to be selected.

34. The information receiving apparatus according to claim 32,
wherein

the information contained in said information items that are
identified by the same said information identification data includes
5 information differing depending on respective locations of said information
providing apparatuses.

35. The information receiving apparatus according to claim 32,
wherein

the information contained in said information items that are
identified by the same said information identification data includes
5 information differing depending on respective locations of said information
providing apparatuses and time.

36. The information receiving apparatus according to claim 32,
wherein

the information contained in said information items includes local
information associated with a local area, and

5 said local information is identified by local information identification
data and said local information includes information which is more detailed
as location of said information providing apparatus is closer to a local area
specified by said local information identification data.

37. An information providing apparatus employed in an
information providing system including an information receiving apparatus
and a plurality of information providing apparatuses transmitting
information to said information receiving apparatus,

5 said information providing apparatus comprising:
information storage means for storing a plurality of information
items,

said plurality of information items each containing information and
information identification data for identifying said information,

10 said information identification data being common to said plurality

of information providing apparatuses, and

the information contained in said information items that are identified by the same said information identification data differing depending on said information providing apparatuses;

15 said information providing apparatus further comprising reception means for receiving information identification data from said information receiving apparatus;

identification data storage means connected to said reception means for storing said received information identification data; and

20 transmission means connected to said information storage means and said identification data storage means for selecting an information item having a predetermined relation with the identification data stored in said identification data storage means from the information items stored in said information storage means and then transmitting the selected information
25 item to said information receiving apparatus.

38. The information providing apparatus according to claim 37, wherein

5 said transmission means includes means for selecting an information item containing information identification data matching the information identification data stored in said identification data storage means from the information items stored in said information storage means and then transmitting said selected information item to said information receiving apparatus.

39. The information providing apparatus according to claim 37, wherein

5 said information item further contains relevant information identification data for identifying information relevant to the information contained in said information item and priority of said relevant information, and

said transmission means includes means for selecting an information item containing relevant information identification data

10 matching the information identification data stored in said identification data storage means from the information items stored in said information storage means and then transmitting said selected information item according to priority contained in said selected information item.

40. The information receiving apparatus according to claim 37, wherein

5 the information contained in said information items that are identified by the same said information identification data includes information differing depending on respective locations of said information providing apparatuses.

41. The information receiving apparatus according to claim 37, wherein

5 the information contained in said information items that are identified by the same said information identification data includes information differing depending on respective locations of said information providing apparatuses and time.

42. The information receiving apparatus according to claim 37, wherein

5 the information contained in said information items includes local information associated with a local area, and said local information is identified by local information identification data and said local information includes information which is more detailed as location of said information providing apparatus is closer to a local area specified by said local information identification data.

43. The information providing apparatus according to claim 37, wherein

5 said information item further contains relevant information identification data for identifying information relevant to the information contained in said information item, and

said transmission means includes means for selecting an information item containing either information identification data or relevant information identification data matching the information identification data stored in said identification data storage means from the information items stored in said information storage means and then transmitting said selected information item to said information receiving apparatus.

44. The information providing apparatus according to claim 43, wherein

said identification data storage means includes means for storing information identification data received by said identification data reception means and relevant information identification data contained in an information item, among the information items stored in said information storage means, that contains information identification data matching said received information identification data, and

said transmission means includes means for selecting an information item, from the information items stored in said information storage means, that contains either information identification data or relevant information identification data matching either the information identification data or the relevant information identification data stored in said identification data storage means and then transmitting said selected information item to said information receiving apparatus.